



April 2003

Proposed Rule Revision

Drinking Water Operating Permits

Chapter 246-294 WAC

Systems affected

All Group A public water systems.

Timelines and requirements

Water System Timelines and Requirements:

Water systems would be subject to the revised WAC after it becomes effective in late 2003.

State Timelines and Requirements:

There are no state timelines because this is a state rule.

Purpose of rule change

Chapter 246-294 must be updated to incorporate revisions to Chapter 246-290 WAC. The update also includes a proposal to revise definitions to provide alternatives for systems that lack design approval but are operating at a level of acceptable compliance.

Public health benefit

Implementation of these rule revisions will result in:

- Closer link of the operating permit categories to public health regulations.
- Consumers have better information on the condition of their water supply.

Key issues of public interest

Issues:

- The department will not be raising operating permit fees.
- Will rewrite the rule to be more reader and user friendly.
- Proposed to more clearly link permit colors with compliance.
- Provides better information for “adequacy” decisions.

Rule development timeline

May 2003

Draft Rule Prepared

May 2003

Workshops for Stakeholders

June 2003

Stakeholder Comment Period

August 2003

Public Hearing

September 2003

Rule Adopted

October 2003

Rule Effective

How to get involved

Workshops are scheduled on May 20 and 21st, 2003.
Open House/Hearing – To be scheduled.

Send written comments to:

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Comment online (August 2003) at:

<http://www3.doh.wa.gov/policyreview/>

Send email comments to:

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For more information

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You can also visit our website at:

http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/Our_Main_Pages/regula.htm